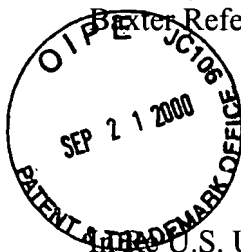


Attorney Docket No. 1417B P 316
Baxter Reference No. DDR-5455

PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Utility Patent Application of:
ARNOLD BILSTAD, et al.

Serial No. 09/294,964

Filed: April 20, 1999

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
MANIPULATING PRE-STERILIZED
COMPONENTS IN AN ACTIVE
STERILE FILED

Examiner: ~~Unassigned~~ *Moozzam*

Art Unit: 1744

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants submit herewith Form PTO-1449, "Information Disclosure Statement," and a copy of each reference listed therein.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), the Applicants, through the undersigned attorney of record, hereby state that each item of information contained in the accompanying Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Accordingly, no fee is required.

The references listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 were cited by the European Patent Office in a communication from the International Searching Authority in connection with a PCT application that claims priority to the above-identified application. A copy of the communication bearing the date of mailing of July 20, 2000 is submitted herewith along with Form PTO-1449 and copies of the references listed thereon.

The Examiner is requested to consider carefully the complete text of the enclosed references in connection with the examination of this Application. It is requested that the listed references be

made of record and included in the "References Cited" portion of any patent issuing from this Application.

Respectfully submitted,

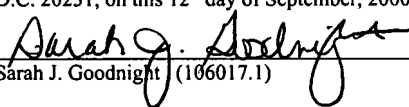
Dated: September 12, 2000

By: 

Robert W. Diehl, Reg. No. 35,118
Wallenstein & Wagner, Ltd.
311 South Wacker Drive, 53rd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6622
312.554.3300

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 12th day of September, 2000.


Sarah J. Goodnight (106017.1)